



State of Connecticut

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE CAPITOL

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HOUSE REPUBLICAN WHIP

MEMBER
EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE
FINANCE, REVENUE AND BONDING COMMITTEE
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Friday February 26, 2016
Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee
Public Hearing Testimony
TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 5062

Dear Co-Chairs Senator Fonfara, Representative Berger; Ranking Members Senator Frantz, Representative Davis; and esteemed members of the Committee,

I am writing today in support of H.B. 5062 AN ACT ELIMINATING THE PERSONAL INCOME TAX ON SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS. To assist Connecticut's senior population by eliminating the personal income tax on Social Security benefits.

Connecticut is consistently rated as one of the worst states in the U.S to retire. Those who have spent their lives working in Connecticut and raising a family here shouldn't be made to flee the state once they retire just so they can keep what they have spent their whole lives earning.

Social Security was established to provide financial protection for retirees who work hard all their lives but who need assistance in their retirement years. This is hardly a handout. Social Security beneficiaries contribute to the Social Security program throughout their careers – a time during which these folks were paying income taxes. To then tax these retirees after they have worked their entire lives is unfair and even harmful to them.

Approval of this legislation would add Connecticut to a list of twenty-six other states that provide a full exemption for Social Security benefits in a time where our senior citizens could certainly use relief from government.

I appreciate your consideration of this bill and I strongly encourage the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee to move this bill forward to provide relief to senior citizens here in our state.